

just proportion to the support of the government which protects his life and his property, I say let him go; he will leave the State for the good of the State. I am now ready to bid him a hearty good-bye, and when he takes up the line of march from the "Old North State" because he is unwilling either to sustain her interest or her credit with his means, or her honor with his life, I, for one, will bid him God-speed.

And, Mr. Speaker, I have but one request to make of those who leave, and that is, that when they arrive at their journey's end, and are asked why they emigrated, and they assign as the reason, that they were required to pay their fair, equal and just proportion of the taxes necessary to support the government, that they do not tell from whence they came—do not hail from North-Carolina.

The ninth objection to altering the constitution is, that constitutions are made for the protection of minorities, and, therefore, ought not to be changed. I admit that constitutions are made for the protection of minorities as well as of majorities, and that minorities ought to be protected as well as majorities; but that is no argument in favor of the restriction in the constitution which the bill under consideration proposes to remove, or against the passage of the bill; for the object of the bill is, not to put the minority in a worse condition than the majority, but to put them on an equality with the majority. If all the citizens and property of the State were now upon an equality in reference to taxation, and the bill under consideration proposed to alter the constitution so as to discriminate against the minority and in favor of the majority, then the objection would hold good; but the object of the bill being to break down a discrimination in favor of a minority, and to establish a perfect equality between them and the majority, the objection fails. And the minority certainly cannot complain at being placed on an equality with the majority; for while the rights of minorities ought to be respected and protected, they cannot reasonably expect more protection or greater privileges than majorities; it is enough if they are respected and protected as equals.